

8/18/90

Dear Sam -

Before I forget: A man is driving a big station wagon, with 17 chimpanzees. A policeman stops him, asks what's going on and commands: "Now, you take those chimps to the zoo - right away." Next day, same man, same station wagon, same chimpanzees, same policeman. "I thought I told you to take those chimps to the zoo," the policeman barks. Says the driver: "I did officer. And today I'm taking them to a ball game."

Harold Weisberg is correct on a number of points. The famous writer he refers to is Jann's sister, Tillie Olson, whose fame rests mostly on one work, "Tell Me A Riddle."

I remember Harold making his rounds with eggs to the Dupont Circle Building, where I had an office. For some reason he discontinued that beat, even though I bought his eggs every time.

It would be fun to run into Harold so I can remind him that when I was editor of the ~~Uf~~ of Dela's THE HUMANIST, I accepted an article of his, "Communism As I conceive It." Brave of Harold to write that in 1930-31 and brave of me to print it. (I believe you had a column in one issue.)

Thanks for the birthday greetings. I made up my mind to celebrate everyday in some way or other. Today, I'm doing so by reading the Magnificent Ambersons, the 1919 Pulitzer novel, which was made into a movie by Orson Welles and that is why I'm reading it: I rented the video recently. (The book was by Booth Tarkington... and who reads him now???)

Regards .

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